



Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

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Environmental Protection Department

July 12, 2002

Ms. Luz Castillo, Senior Hazardous Substances Scientist Statewide Compliance Division
Department of Toxic Substances Control
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94710-2737

SUBJECT:

Response to the 2002 CEI Summary of Violations Report, Livermore Site, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL)

Dear Ms. Castillo:

This letter is being submitted as a response to the Summary of Violations report (dated June 6, 2002) resulting from the Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI) that the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) conducted at LLNL on May 22-24, May 30, and June 4, 2002. You cited a total of three violations. The first violation related to storage of a single mixed waste container (Q67475) for greater than 90 days at a 90-day generator accumulation area. The second related to storage of two hazardous waste containers (Q60399 and Q60291) for greater than one year in a permitted hazardous - waste storage unit. The third related to inadequate aisle space between the mixed waste portable tanks within a Container Storage Unit currently under interim status.

As you are already aware, LLNL completed immediate remedial actions related to the first and second violations before the Summary of Violations report was issued. The mixed waste container (Q67475) was transferred from the 612-4 Receiving, Segregation, and Container Storage Unit to a permitted storage area (the Building 625 Container Storage Unit)

on May 22, 2002 the day of the inspection in that area. In addition, shipping arrangements began the day the two hazardous waste containers (Q60399 and Q60291) stored for greater than one year in the Building 693-1008 Container Storage Unit were found, and a manifest was provided to you on June 10, 2002 indicating that these two containers were shipped offsite for disposal on May 29, 2002.

In response to the third alleged violation related to inadequate aisle space between the mixed waste portable tanks at the Area 514-3 Container Storage Unit, LLNL is contesting this violation and has determined that no corrective action is required for the following reasons:

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- 1) The portable tanks reside within an area that is subject to interim status requirements in 22 CCR, Chapter 15, and the Interim Status Document (ISD). The Interim Status document and regulations for interim status facilities specify
 - "maintaining aisle space as needed to allow the unobstructed movement of personnel, fire protection equipment, spill control equipment, and @

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decontamination equipment to any area of facility operation in an emergency," The aisle space between the portable tanks within the Area 514-3 container storage unit is maintained at a minimum of 3 feet, which meets regulatory requirements, and provides sufficient space for unobstructed movement of HWM personnel and appropriate emergency response equipment between the portable tanks.

The normal response action to a fire in this area would be performed by fire department personnel using hand held extinguishing equipment (e.g., hoses, etc.). The 3 foot aisle space is sufficient to enable fire department personnel to access the portable tanks with their equipment.

3. LLNL's standard response to spills or releases from containers involves containing the spilled material and stopping the release of additional material. Initial response procedures would involve only personnel and hand held sealing or containment devices. Once the affected area on the tank is sealed, the incident would be considered under control, and no further emergency response would be required. The 3 feet of aisle space is also sufficient in this situation to enable personnel to access the portable tanks with appropriate containment devices. Follow-up actions would consist of transferring the contents of the leaking tank to a container or other tank in good condition. The transfer would be performed without moving the damaged tank to prevent the leak from reopening.

Please contact me at (925) 422-3985 if you have any questions regarding this response.

Sincerely,

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Ellen Raber, Department Head Environmental Protection Department

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